

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

**PATRICK EDDINGTON,**  
1000 Massachusetts Avenue  
Washington, DC 20001

**Plaintiff,**

**v.**

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF  
INVESTIGATION,**  
935 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20535

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,**  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20530

**Defendants.**

**Case No. 19-cv-2962**

**COMPLAINT**

1. Plaintiff, PATRICK EDDINGTON files this Freedom of Information Act suit to force Defendants FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION and DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, to produce records related to any FBI records that mentions himself, Patrick Glenn Eddington, from April 3, 1981 to the present.

**PARTIES**

2. Plaintiff EDDINGTON is a policy analyst and scholar at the Cato Institute and made the FOIA request.

3. Defendant FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION is a federal agency subject to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, and a component of the DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

4. Defendant DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE is a federal agency subject to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552.

### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

5. This case is brought under 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(6)(c)(i) and presents a federal question conferring jurisdiction on this Court.

6. Venue is proper under 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(B).

### **FBI'S FOIA VIOLATION**

7. On or around April 5, 2019, EDDINGTON submitted a FOIA request to FBI via its online portal: “[a]ny FBI records that mentions me (Patrick Eddington, Patrick Glenn Eddington, Patrick G. Eddington, Pat Eddington) from April 3, 1981 to the present.” Exhibit A.

8. On April 11, 2019, the FBI acknowledged receipt of the request and assigned FOIPA Request Number 1433507-000 to the matter. Exhibit B.

9. In that same letter FBI also claimed that they were “unable to identify law enforcement and/or administrative records responsive to [his] request” and closed the request. Exhibit B.

10. On April 22, 2019, EDDINGTON submitted an appeal to DOJ challenging the adequacy of the FBI’s search. EDDINGTON also requested expedited processing for the appeal. Exhibit C.

11. On April 23, 2019, DOJ acknowledged receipt of the appeal and assigned reference number DOJ-AP-2019-004056 to the appeal. DOJ also denied expedited processing of the appeal. Exhibit D.

12. On June 11, 2019, FBI remanded EDDINGTON’s request to the FBI for a further search for responsive records. Exhibit E.

13. On June 28, 2019, FBI informed EDDINGTON that they have “opened [his] remanded appeal and will inform [him] of the results in future correspondence.” Exhibit F.

14. FBI has not issued a determination on the remanded appeal or notified EDDINGTON of the results of the search.

15. As of the date of this filing, FBI has produced no records responsive to the request.

**COUNT I –FBI VIOLATION OF FOIA**

16. The above paragraphs are incorporated herein.

17. Defendants are agencies subject to FOIA.

18. The requested records are not exempt under FOIA.

19. Defendants have failed to produce the requested records.

**WHEREFORE**, Plaintiff asks the Court to:

- i. Order Defendants to conduct a reasonable search for records and to produce all non-exempt requested records;
- ii. Award Plaintiff’s attorney fees and costs; and
- iii. Enter any other relief the Court deems appropriate.

Dated: October 2, 2019

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Joshua Hart Burday

Attorneys for Plaintiff

Matthew Topic, Bar No. IL0037  
Joshua Burday, Bar No. IL0042  
Merrick Wayne, Bar No. IL0058  
(E-Mail: foia@loevy.com)  
LOEVY & LOEVY  
311 N. Aberdeen, Third Floor  
Chicago, Illinois 60607  
Tel.: (312) 243-5900  
Fax: (312) 243-5902